

37228

Sept. '83

Authorization to Proceed with Remedial Planning Activities at the Asbestos Dump Site, Millington, New Jersey

**William G. Hodson, Jr., Director
Office of Emergency and Remedial Response**

**Lee H. Thomas, Assistant Administrator for
Solid Waste and Emergency Response**

Purpose:

The purpose of this memorandum is to request authorization to proceed with a remedial investigation and feasibility study (RI/FS) at the Asbestos Dump site, Millington, New Jersey. This work will be undertaken by the RSM/ET contractor.

Background:

The Asbestos Dump is an abandoned 3.4 acre dump site located on a 12 acre tract of land adjacent to the Passaic River. The site is the result of years of dumping by several asbestos processing companies. Since the time the dumping ceased, the site was covered with soil and seeded. Although the base of the dump along the river bank had been reinforced with riprap, erosion and weathering have exposed areas of asbestos on the approximately 80' unreinforced upper slope. The National Gypsum Company, a former site owner, has restabilized the river bank and asbestos hill several times, pursuant to an agreement it has with the New Jersey Department of Environmental Protection (NJDEP) and Giff, Ltd., the current site owner.

In addition to the asbestos dump, several lagoons were located on the site which were used as a part of the National Gypsum Company's wastewater treatment system. These lagoons, which were covered during subsequent site regrading, may have contained toxic residues from the manufacture of urethane foam and the application of acrylic coatings to asbestos shingles. An allegation has been made by a former National Gypsum Company employee that phenylmercuric acetate has been disposed of on the site.

Three other asbestos dumping areas have been identified in the vicinity of the nearby Great Swamp National Wildlife Refuge, however, no direct link to the Millington site has yet been established. The first area is located off New Vernon Road near Myeraville, New Jersey; the second is behind 651 White Bridge Road near the Black Brook; the third is along a hiking trail in the Wildlife Refuge itself. Asbestos waste is exposed on the ground surface at all three sites.

OERR/ENSB	OERR/ENSB	ENF-DC	ENF-DC	OERR/ENSB	OERR
MCNIGHT	PAVLOU	SMYER	MURDIN	OGG	LIBRISZI

828 707 0051

Enforcement:

The NJDEP Solid Waste Administration issued an Administrative Order on February 16, 1978 requiring the National Gypsum Company to stabilize and maintain the asbestos dump at the Millington site. Since that time, the NJDEP has issued further Administrative Orders to National Gypsum to restabilize the dump slopes to correct the results of erosion.

Proposed Project:

Investigative studies must be performed at the site to determine the extent of air, soil, surface water and groundwater contamination. Offsite areas need to be studied to determine the extent of air, soil and surface water contamination. A feasibility study will be undertaken to develop the long-term, cost-effective cleanup alternative for the site.

The preliminary cost estimates of the proposed actions are:

Remedial Investigation	\$350,000
Feasibility Study	<u>\$150,000</u>
	\$500,000

It is estimated that the above studies should be completed within ten (10) months. Negotiations with responsible parties will be undertaken following the completion of the studies.

Recommendation:

I recommend authorization to proceed with a remedial investigation and feasibility study for the Asbestos Dump Site.

I am available to discuss this request in more detail at your convenience.

Approve _____

Disapprove _____

Date _____

Asbestos Dump RI/FS Work Plan

1. Topographic Survey - establish layout for sampling
2. Geotechnical Investigation:
 - geophysical survey
 - physical soil testing
 - data evaluation
3. Sampling Program
 - Millington Site:
 - Air - asbestos fiber count
 - Soil - asbestos fiber count; asbestos mineral identification
 - Surface water (Passaic river) - asbestos fiber count (upstream, downstream, and at site)
 - Groundwater - priority pollutants & phenylacetic acetate (PAA)
 - Leachate (if present) - priority pollutants & PAA
 - offsite areas:
 - Air - asbestos fiber count
 - Soil - asbestos fiber count, asbestos mineral identification
 - Surface water - priority pollutants
4. Remedial Investigation Report
5. Feasibility Study